Texas Providers Webinar Highlights – December 7, 2021

Read below for topics covered or view the full recording for detailed information.

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

- The recent rise of the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529) further emphasizes the importance of vaccination, boosters, and prevention efforts needed to protect against COVID-19. **All persons aged 18 years and older should receive a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine.** For more information, please review the CDC's COVID-19 booster recommendations (strengthened on November 29, 2021) and DSHS' COVID-19 booster infographic.
- **Pfizer 300 COVID-19 vaccine (gray cap) will be available for ordering later this month** in the Vaccine Allocation & Ordering System (VAOS). Once Pfizer 300 COVID-19 vaccine becomes available, providers will no longer be able to order Pfizer 1170 (purple cap) in VAOS. COVID-19 vaccine providers will be notified via email when Pfizer 300 becomes available for ordering in VAOS. Given the introduction of the new Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine formulation, providers are encouraged to review **DSHS' Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Formulations infographic**, located on slide 18 of the December 7 Texas Vaccine Providers Webinar presentation.

COVID-19 Vaccine Co-Administration & Clinical Guidance

- COVID-19 vaccines may be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines. This includes **simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines on the same day**. If multiple vaccines are administered at a single visit, administer each injection in a different injection site. For more information, refer to this CDC webpage.
- Review the Vaccine Administration Errors and Deviations section of the CDC's Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States webpage to learn about the interim recommendation for each type of COVID-19 vaccine administration error.

National Influenza Vaccination Week – December 5-11

- From December 5-11, 2021, we will be observing **National Influenza Vaccination Week**, reminding everyone 6 months of age and older that there is still time to receive an influenza vaccine. It is safe and effective to co-administer COVID-19 vaccine and flu vaccine, so providers are encouraged to take advantage of every opportunity to co-administer when possible.
- When discussing influenza vaccination with clients, keep in mind the **Standards for Adult Immunization Practice**: **assess** immunization needs; **recommend** all recommended adult vaccines; **administer** the vaccine or **refer** the client to community vaccinators/medical homes; and **document** vaccine administration using Texas Immunization Registry, ImmTrac2. For more information, please review the Standards for Adult Immunization Practice.

ImmTrac2 Reporting

- Providers may now reference the ImmTrac2 COVID-19 Vaccine Reporting Tips guide for guidance on reporting administered COVID-19 vaccine doses in the Texas Immunization Registry, ImmTrac2.

Provider Resources:

- COVID-19 Vaccine Management Resources (training and support materials)
- ImmTrac2 User Training Site
- ImmTrac2 Forms and Documents
- COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment Information
- CDC Clinical Considerations for or Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines
- DSHS Provider Help Desk: (833) 832-7068, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; Email: COVID19VacEnroll@dshs.texas.gov

Session Live Q&A:

- Our facility is consistently able to pull only 8 doses of Pfizer COVID-19 pediatric vaccine from each vial. If we are not able to administer the full 10 doses, do we need to report any vaccine waste in VAOS?
- What are the guidelines for administering COVID-19 vaccine booster doses to clients who received their primary series outside the United States?
- Is it safe to administer COVID-19 vaccine and flu vaccine at the same time?
- Of the orange, purple, and gray cap Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines, which are under an EUA and which are FDA-approved?